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NO.: CA-6928 February 26, 1957

SUBJECT: Travel in Europe of Consultants to Senate Judiciary Committee.

AMSTERDAM

TO: BARCELONA, BASEL, BERN, BONN, BREMEN, BRUSSELS, GENEVA, THE HAGUE, LIVERPOOL, LONDON, MADRID, MANCHESTER, MILAN, PARIS, ROME, VIENNA, ZURICH.

CODEL-THOMPSON. Messrs. Sam Thompson and Gerald Dearing have been appointed as special consultants to the Senate Judiciary Committee for the purpose of making an inquiry into the <sup>alleged</sup> restrictive practices indulged in by ~~some~~ cotton exporters which the Committee believes may be in restraint of trade.

The special consultants mentioned what they alleged to be verified practices indulged in in connection with sales to the Spanish government whereby purchases for local consumption and weaving <sup>in</sup> Spain are purchased by the Government and then ~~marked~~ marked up by a specified percentage before being sold to the domestic mills. It is the belief of the Committee that surplus sales of cotton by government agencies under the provisions of PL 480 may have lead to such practices. The Codel, upon inquiry, insisted that they are concerned only with the practices by domestic US exporters but would be seeking information from foreign consumers, ~~in order~~ to substantiate allegations concerning practices supposedly engaged in by the domestic companies.

The Foreign Agriculture Service, of the Department of Agriculture, has been contacted by Messrs. Thompson and Dearing with the request that our agricultural attaches in the countries to be visited ~~be~~ be notified. It is suggested that all arrangements be coordinated with the agricultural attaches, in order to avoid duplication.

Both Mr. Thompson and Mr. Dearing are authorized to utilize local currencies (19FT561 funds). Provisions of the Handbook for Congressional Travel apply. Posts should meet and assist and appoint control officers. Make hotel reservations in accordance with the itinerary when it is determined. ~~They~~ <sup>They</sup> have already requested, through the agricultural attache in Paris, reservations at the Hotel Continental. It might be well to verify this.

Travel plans at this time are not firm. ~~They~~ <sup>They</sup> will arrive in Paris on March 2 at 3:50 p.m. via MATS A-423. Onward travel plans will probably be completed during ~~their~~ <sup>their</sup> stay in Paris. Embassy Paris

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is requested to assist in making ~~his~~<sup>their</sup> travel arrangements and to notify onward posts and the Department what the itinerary is. It is contemplated that the following countries will be visited, with visits to be made to the cities enclosed in parenthesis in addition to the capitals and those other cities as may be necessary in order to make travel connections: France, Spain (Barcelona), Switzerland (Zurich), Italy (Milan), Austria, Germany (Bremen), Netherlands (Amsterdam), Belgium (Brussels), and England (Liverpool, Manchester). It is also contemplated that the over-all ~~trip~~ duration of the trip will be four to six weeks.

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